

addition, through its efforts to restore and manage forested properties, wetlands, and prairies, the department holds storm waters, improves water and air quality, protects endangered species, and helps to maintain natural habitats. Lake County Parks and Recreation has won numerous awards and accolades for its great works, and it is certainly worthy of each and every honor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Lake County Parks and Recreation on its 50th anniversary. For the past fifty years, the leadership, employees, and volunteers of the department have enhanced the lives of countless individuals through their unwavering commitment to the community of Northwest Indiana, and they are worthy of the highest praise.

HONORING THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOQUEL

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Congregational Church of Soquel. Established in May of 1868, the Congregational Church of Soquel has built a legacy of providing a safe and supportive environment for many of my constituents in the 20th Congressional District of California. The church has a history of service and sanctuary, while actively engaging in acts of compassion, justice, and a sense of responsibility.

The Congregational Church of Soquel—also known as the Little White Church in the Vale—has served as a pillar of the Soquel community since it was first organized by Joshua and Narcissa Parrish in 1868. The Church, both as a brick-and-mortar institution and as a family, persevered through many adversities while maintaining a sense of service to the community. The Church has repeatedly served as a shelter and temporary fire station during natural disasters. Even through the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake which devastated much of our community, the Church remained indomitable.

The Church not only provides opportunities for satisfying spiritual needs, but also works to provide tangible solutions to community needs, including hunger and homelessness. Currently, the Church fulfills its mission of addressing food insecurity and homelessness through its partnership with many crucial organizations in my district such as Meals on Wheels, the Second Harvest Food Bank, and the Homeless Services Center. In addition, the church also partners with The Great Chili Cook-Off, which supports the Mid-County Homeless Coalition—Shower Trailer Program. Through these partnerships, local organizations can ensure that many of those in need are provided with emergency food and housing.

The Church not only looks for opportunities to help within our community, but also beyond our country's borders. The Church continues to address food insecurity internationally through its work with the Panamerican Institute in Tijuana, Mexico. There, the Church provides food baskets for families of the Insti-

tute and motivates both youth and adults to make improvements in schools and homes in the area. In addition to the church's service in Mexico, they also participate in Solehope, which provides shoes to children in Uganda. In Kenya, the church supports Happy Life Children's Home, which helps to find homes for abandoned children. These missions and services that the church participates in locally and globally show their dedication to uplifting communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the dedication and commitment to compassion and justice that the Congregational Church of Soquel provides to the 20th Congressional District. We are fortunate to have an institution like the Congregational Church of Soquel call the central coast of California home. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Congregational Church of Soquel.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF GLENDALE'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Assistance League of Glendale upon its seventy-fifth anniversary.

The Assistance League of Glendale began with a small group of women dedicated to performing selfless acts for the local community and has since developed into a multifaceted philanthropic organization targeted at providing aid to women, men and children in need of guidance, assistance and care. The members work to ensure that the needs of children and seniors in Glendale are met with care and respect, and dedicate thousands of hours to improve the city.

Committed to promoting education and enriching the lives of students, the Assistance League of Glendale provides clothing to elementary school children in need, reading support and books, as well as thousands of dollars in scholarships for students graduating from high schools and college in Glendale.

In addition to its exceptional work for young students, the Assistance League of Glendale provides social programs and meals for seniors, weekly training for developmentally challenged adults to learn vocational skills, and quality pre-owned merchandise as well as clothing at affordable prices.

This volunteer-driven organization continues its mission to assist and uplift as it strives to address the increasing needs of the community with innovative, dynamic and creative philanthropic programs that promote emotional and physical well-being, and over the years has evolved to meet the shifting needs of the community.

The Assistance League of Glendale serves as a brilliant example of the power of volunteerism and what people can do when inspired to connect with others in the spirit of humanitarianism. The time, effort, and care that the organization has given to the community is outstanding, and the residents of Glendale and the greater Los Angeles area have benefited greatly from their work.

I ask all Members to join with me in commending the Assistance League of Glendale

for seventy-five years of dedicated, outstanding and invaluable service to the community.

MICHAEL MARTINEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Michael Martinez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Michael Martinez is a student at Standley Lake High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Michael Martinez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Michael Martinez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING GUNNERY SERGEANT JEREMY L. LONG ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of the forthcoming retirement of Gunnery Sergeant Jeremy L. Long on June 30, 2018.

GySgt Jeremy Long has served the United States Marine Corps with honor and distinction for twenty years. A career of such longevity in support of our national security is, in itself, an accomplishment worthy of recognition. GySgt Long has accomplished extraordinary achievements during his exceptional career that demands more than just recognition of a grateful nation. He has earned the respect of countless fellow Marines that have benefited from his leadership and technical expertise in six different military occupational specialties and the adulation of millions, who he has never met, but who benefited from his service nonetheless.

Jeremy Long's Human Intelligence occupational specialty put him directly into harm's way on multiple deployments into the most dangerous battlefields of his generation. GySgt Long deployed to Iraq three times. First to Mahmudiyah in 2003, then Husaybah in 2004 and again in 2005 with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable). Later, he deployed to Afghanistan three more times. First, with the 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion (MSOB) in 2007 to Helmand Province, again in 2009 with the 1st MSOB in 2009 and finally with the Special Operations Task Force-81 in 2012.

GySgt Long has served his country in some of the most dangerous places in the world. He has also dedicated significant effort developing the necessary skills that enabled him to be an enormous asset and enabler for the units he served. For example, he spent 52 weeks learning the Pashtu language, an extremely difficult language to learn. He attended other schools such as the very intense and difficult Survival Evasion Resistance and Escape course (SERE), Technical Surveillance Sciences Course, the Close Quarters Battle courses and Electronic Surveillance courses.

Finally, as a Command Counterintelligence Staff Officer assigned to the Marine Corps Embassy Security Group, he has conducted multiple counterintelligence site visits to Marine Corps Security Guard Detachments in places like Moscow, Russia; Hong Kong, Hong Kong; Freetown, Sierra Leone; and Bridgetown, Barbados.

Over the course of 20 years of dedicated service, GySgt Long has repeatedly demonstrated honor and dedication indicative of a great Marine and American hero. His valiant efforts both across oceans in enemy territory as well as here at home have helped to protect and shape our nation. On behalf of the United States Congress, and the American people we represent, I extend my deep appreciation to Gunnery Sergeant Jeremy L. Long for his service to our country. My best wishes on a happy retirement and continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of Mount Olive Baptist Church. This church is the oldest in the Stafford, Virginia area and has uplifted the community through countless hardships and celebrated through countless joys.

The Mount Olive Baptist Church was established on May 16, 1818, as a rudimentary wood structure under the guidance of Reverend Horace Crutcher. The church began to grow immediately, and established a school in the aftermath of the Civil War.

The church has since launched outreach programs in Zambia, Ghana, and New Zealand, providing food, water, shelter, and medical care to the needy. They also provide bible studies, musical ministries, and youth programs for the Stafford community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me as we recognize the immeasurable good that the Mount Olive Baptist church has done for those in the Stafford community over the last 200 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for Roll Call votes 181, 182, and 183 on Tuesday,

May 15, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea.

BUFFALO BILL DAYS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Buffalo Bill Days for receiving the Golden Rotary Ethics in Business Award.

The Ethics in Business Award was established by the Golden Rotary to honor for-profit and non-profit businesses. The recipients of this award must maintain integrity, conviction and possess high ethical standards demonstrated by the treatment of customers, employees, community and the environment.

Buffalo Bill Days is a 100 percent volunteer run non-profit organization. They are responsible for putting on the largest community festival in Golden, Colorado. The event dates back to the 1940s and is an event the residents of Golden look forward to every year. Buffalo Bill Days is well known for their responsible management of finances and are a model for how organizations can work and co-operate with one another.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the Buffalo Bill Days for receiving this well-deserved honor by the Golden Rotary. I thank them for their continued commitment to our community.

WELCOMING GUEST CHAPLAIN DR. TED KITCHENS TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to welcome Dr. Ted Kitchens as our guest chaplain this morning and greatly appreciate him leading us in prayer.

Dr. Kitchens is from the 12th District of Texas, which I proudly represent.

He's served as the Senior Pastor of Christ Chapel Bible Church in Fort Worth for the past 36 years.

Under his leadership, Dr. Kitchens grew his congregation from 116 people to more than 6,000 members per week.

Christ Chapel Bible Church has also grown to become a vital partner with the entire Fort Worth community.

Dr. Kitchens has been married to his wife Lynn for 41 years, and they have two wonderful children, Kassie and Tyler.

I want to thank Pastor Kitchens for all he does to serve our community and for providing us with spiritual guidance on this day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I missed three votes on

May 15, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 181; YEA on Roll Call No. 182; and YEA on Roll Call No. 183.

CONGRATULATING THE NORTH COUNTRY MISSION OF HOPE ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the North Country Mission of Hope on its 20th anniversary.

In 1998, Sister Debbie Blow and a team of dedicated students from Seton Catholic School started a fundraising project to benefit victims of Hurricane Mitch in Nicaragua. What started as a small project grew to yearly mission trips to Nicaragua, ultimately becoming the North Country Mission of Hope. Since then, the North Country Mission of Hope has partnered with countless non-governmental organizations to create a network of support all the way from the North Country to Central America.

While originally established to help hurricane victims, the North Country Mission of Hope has grown to support sustainable programs in education, healthcare, community and ecological development. Its service reaches some of the poorest areas of Nicaragua. Currently, the North Country Mission of Hope coordinates over 850 education sponsorships, nutritional feeding programs at 24 schools, and ships needed supplies at least twice a year. Through its tireless commitment to serving others, the Mission of Hope continuously achieves its goal of fostering hope and empowering relationships with the people of Nicaragua.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to honor the North Country Mission of Hope for its 20 years of service and thank its members for being exceptional ambassadors of the North Country. I look forward to watching the amazing things that the North Country Mission of Hope accomplishes for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes on May 15, 2018 due to Pennsylvania primary elections. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: YEA for rollcall vote 181; YEA for rollcall vote 182; and YEA for rollcall vote 183.

LUKAS KNIGHT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Lukas Knight